

WILLIAM LIGHTFOOT.

MARCH 5, 1840.

Read, and laid upon the table.

Mr. C. MORRIS, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of William Lightfoot, report:*

The petitioner states that in the month of May, 1812, he enlisted in the army of the United States as a private in Captain McIntosh's company for five years, was marched into Canada, and was engaged in the battle of Williamsburg; that in said engagement he sustained injury from two musket-balls, in the elbow and leg, but not so severely as to disable him at the time; that he, with others, was attached to a piece of artillery, and that all except himself were killed or wounded, and the gun would have fallen into the hands of the enemy, but for the extraordinary efforts of your petitioner, who, in his wounded condition, carried it from the field, though at a serious and permanent injury to himself, occasioned by the horses attached thereto having become frightened and unmanageable. In his efforts to govern them, a deeply seated pain in the side was inflicted on him, which has increased with his age until the same is at times almost insupportable. That with much pain and suffering he continued in the service until the close of the war, at which time he was honorably discharged.

The surgeons and officers who had knowledge of his wounds and sufferings are long since dead.

The deposition of Joseph Allford states that he was in the army with Lightfoot, but was not in the battle which he mentions, but that he saw him immediately before and after it; that after said battle, said Lightfoot suffered great pain, which was then said to have arisen from injury received in said battle, to wit, in extraordinary efforts to save a piece of artillery; that he has known the said Lightfoot ever since he came out of the army, and knows that he has always complained much of his sufferings.

Two physicians state, under oath, that they have examined Mr. William Lightfoot, and believe him totally unable to obtain a livelihood by manual labor; and that he has a scar on his left leg, and another on his right elbow, which he represents as being the result of wounds received at the battle of Williamsburg.

No evidence appears as to the credibility of either the petitioner or witness Allford.

The committee are of opinion that, without additional evidence, relief ought not to be granted.

Blair & Rives, printers.

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The surgeons and officers who had knowledge of his wounds and sufferings are long since dead.

The deposition of Joseph Alford states that he was in the army with Lightfoot, but was not in the battle which he mentions, but that he saw him immediately before and after it; that after said battle, said Lightfoot suffered great pain, which was said to have arisen from injury received in said battle, to wit, in extraordinary efforts to save a piece of artillery; that he has known the said Lightfoot ever since he came out of the army, and knows that he has always complained much of his sufferings.

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No evidence appears as to the credibility of either the petitioner or witness Alford.

The committee are of opinion that without additional evidence, relief ought not to be granted.

Chair & River Bridge.